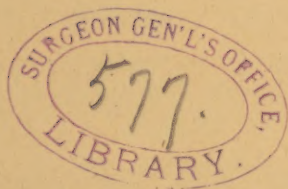


Peter (TR.)

Restorative and tonic
medication





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RESTORATIVE AND TONIC MEDICATION.

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The destiny of every living tissue, from the simplest cell to the most complicated structure, is a struggle for existence. The contest is by collective vital force of the elements of composition. The struggle is a double one—constructive and destructive. Constructive metabolism, or the process of nutrition, results in constructive metamorphosis of tissue by means of digestion and assimilation. Destructive metabolism, or the process of waste, results in retrogressive metamorphosis of tissue into “physiological ashes,” wasted in consequence of “wear and tear.” In the fitness of things it is ordained that this struggle for existence cannot successfully go on unless the process of nutrition and waste balance one another. Equilibration of this double function may become disturbed by injury and disease. This balance once broken, tissue either lives faster than it dies or it dies faster than it lives, and unless the normal co-relation of nutrition and waste is restored and maintained, tissue is doomed to impairment and ultimately to death.

Natural immunity to tissue depends upon its defensive powers, defensive powers upon vital resistance, and vital resistance upon vital force. In the maintenance of vital force nutrition plays the important rôle. It wholly relies upon it. Vital resistance can only assert itself under conditions of normal nutrition. When normal nutrition suffers, physiological tone lags and defensive powers are then more easily overcome by a morbid foe.

Again, normal nutrition is not possible without perfect digestion and assimilation. Nor can food be assimilated without its proper digestion. One depends upon the other. We must keep them corrected.

Thus we have seen the links of normal metabolism and what great importance must be attached to the same. Under the influence of disease processes, all these functions are either modified or altered. The conditions are changed and therefore the organism suffers.

With light of modern pathology applied, therapeutics have in a great measure changed. Greater knowledge concerning the importance of vital resistance of tissue against the onslaught of disease, has in many instances completely overthrown our methods of treatment. Spoliative plans of bygone days are entirely supplanted. Therefore, especially so called antiphlogistic plans of treatment of the past have mostly gone glimmering; and happily so, now when we recall the horrors of indiscriminate bleeding, of the cauterium actuale, etc. The present problem of the healing art is to conserve and to aim for the

support of tissue. We now carefully and diligently lay in our proper supplies to meet and conquer the enemy. We no longer unwittingly cripple our defensive forces, as was done in the past.

In most diseases waste is not only increased, but toxic products are set afloat in the living economy, permeating all the realms of tissue and thus tend to destroy vegetal function. In such emergencies digestion and assimilation are impaired and the organism suffers from mal-nutrition. These conditions call for such medication that will improve and restore nutrition. Medication which gives tone and reconstruction to the general system is here respectively epitomized as *restorative* and *tonic*.

It has been much better said than well understood, that all tonics act by stimulating digestion and assimilation and thereby restoring nutrition. However, it is no less the fact. But how much more a remedy may prove to be restorative and tonic in the nature of a direct digestive as well, was shown forty-seven years ago by one Johann Hoff. His product of malt extract still continues true and tried. There is no adulteration of this pioneer preparation with salicylic acid nor otherwise. It is, therefore, still in great favor. It is with so much satisfaction that we notice a most happy thought of the late combination of his extract of malt with the Peptonates of Iron and Manganese. How well this grand combination will serve our purpose in low states, anæmia, chlorosis, tuberculosis, etc., is self-evident from the fact that only organic forms of iron and manganese are assimilated with the invigorating malt.



